CLAIMS

1.   A system for processing samples of a target language, comprising means for generating modified versions of said samples of a target language or of fragments of said samples of a target language, wherein,
- said modified versions are generated by applying groups of modifications,
- said groups of modifications contain one or more modifications,
- one or more of said modifications can be applied in an independent fashion,
- said target language can be a foreign language or a native language.

2.   A system as claimed in claim 1, characterized because
- it comprises means for showing one or more of said samples of a target language divided into word groups wherein, in order to facilitate the exposition, each one of those word groups is called Original Extract,
- one or more Relations that are assigned to one or more of said Original Extracts, wherein said Relations are entities that contain one or more concrete modifications that can be applied upon the Original Extract to which said Relation is assigned,
- it comprises means for activating at least one Relation for the Original Extract to which said Relation is assigned, so that when such Relation is activated, certain modifications that are included in said Relation are applied upon said Original Extract, so that one or more Modified Extracts are generated, where said Modified Extracts are modified versions of said Original Extracts,
- it comprises means to show to the person that is using the invention said Original Extract and/or one or more of said Modified Extracts that have been generated.

3.   A system as claimed in claim 2, wherein one or more of said Relations comprises more than one activation level, so that when said Relation is activated to different activation levels different modifications are applied and different Modified Extracts are generated.

4.   A system as claimed in claim 2, further comprising means so allow one person to utilize the invention in different utilization modes, wherein said utilization modes differ in the actions that said person must carry out in order to activate or deactivate said Relations.

5. A system as claimed in claim 2, further comprising:

— at least one Original Blind Extract that is associated to an Original Extract, wherein said Original Blind Extract is an entity that contains information about:

~ the words that are related in some way to said Original Extract,

~ other type of information, such as for example control characters or other information,

— means for filtering said Original Blind Extract and generating a text fragment called Original Open Extract, which is the version of said Original Extract that is shown to the user.

6. A system as claimed in claim 5, further comprising:

— means for modifying said Original Blind Extract and generating one or more Modified Blind Extracts, depending on the Relations that are active and on the level to which those Relations have been activated, wherein applying each one of said Relations creates a modification in said Original Blind Extract,

— means for applying the filtering process that was mentioned in claim 5 to said Modified Blind Extracts, so that one or more Modified Open Extracts are created, wherein said Modified Open Extracts are the language fragments that are shown to the learner, wherein if all Relations are non-active, the resulting Modified Closed Extract would have the same form as said Original Closed Extract.

7. A system as claimed in claim 2, further comprising means for creating one or more of said Relations by using Relational Schemes,

— wherein said Relational Schemes are templates that contain certain modifications and certain variables for which it is necessary to specify a set of values, wherein said variables can be assigned values such as the following:

~ different word groups to which some of said certain modifications can be applied,

~ different concrete aspects about how to apply said certain modifications,

~ other type of information,

— wherein activating a Relation that is based on a Relational Scheme comprises the application of said modifications upon said word groups in a way that will depend on the level at which said Relation is active.

8. A system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said certain modifications are created as a combination of Basic Actions, where said Basic Actions can be one of the following:

   – A "Show" Basic Action, which is characterized because it modifies the visualization state of one or more words,

   – A "Move" Basic Action, which is characterized because it modifies the position of one or more words,

   – A "Mark" Basic Action, which is characterized because it uses some means to mark or unmark one or more words,

   – Other type of Basic Action

9. A system as claimed in claim 2, characterized because it comprises Simple Relations and Compounded Relations, wherein said Compounded Relations are created as a combination of one or more Relations, and wherein said one or more Relations might be Simple Relations or Compounded Relations.

10. A system as claimed in Claim 9, characterized because it comprises a Compounded Relation of the type Multiple Displacement, which is characterized because it simultaneously applies two Relations that modify the position of two word groups.

11. A system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the modifications that produce a movement of words are carried out by a procedure that comprises the following steps:

   – creating replicas of the words that are to be moved

   – adding a movement code to the words that have just been created, so that said code facilitates distinguishing movements that have been applied in a consecutive fashion,

   – placing in the chosen place the words that have just been created,

   – hiding the original words.

12. A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the modifications that produce a movement of words are carried out by a procedure that comprises the following steps:

   – creating a non visible word in a position that is next to the position of the words that are to be moved, in such a way that said non visible word contains a code that is related to said words, which code can be used to identify the words that will be moved,

   – removing those words that are to be moved,

   – creating new words with the same text as those removed words,

    – place said new words that have been just created in the position that has been chosen as destination.

13. A system as claimed in claim 1, characterized because it is used to facilitate the comprehension and/or learning of languages.

14. A system as claimed in claim 1 characterized because it is used to generate a data set that is utilized to build a system as claimed in claim 13.

15. A system as claimed in claim 1, characterized because it is a computerized system that comprises:
    – hardware means,
    – a structured data set, these data being related to the samples of target language, and
    – a computer program that manages the interactions of the person that is utilizing the invention.

16. A system as claimed in claim 1, characterized because it is based on a television or any audiovisual support, so that the text, the Original Extracts, the Modified Extracts or all of them are shown on the screen.

17. A system as claimed in claim 1, characterized because it is based on a paper support, or a paper-like support, such as for example a book, a notebook or other type support, so that the text, the Original Extracts, the Modified Extracts or all of them are shown on the paper.

18. A method for processing samples of a target language, comprising the step of generating modified versions of said samples of a target language or of fragments of said samples of a target language, wherein,
    – said modified versions are generated by applying groups of modifications,
    – said groups of modifications contain one or more modifications,
    – one or more of said modifications can be applied in an independent fashion,
    – said target language can be a foreign language or a native language.

19. A method as claimed in claim 18, characterized because

- it comprises the step of showing one or more of said samples of a target language divided into word groups wherein, in order to facilitate the exposition, each one of those word groups is called Original Extract,

- it comprises one or more Relations that are assigned to one or more of said Original Extracts, wherein said Relations are entities that contain one or more concrete modifications that can be applied upon the Original Extract to which said Relation is assigned,

- it comprises the step of activating at least one Relation for the Original Extract to which said Relation is assigned, so that when such Relation is activated, certain modifications that are included in said Relation are applied upon said Original Extract, so that one or more Modified Extracts are generated, where said Modified Extracts are modified versions of said Original Extracts,

- it comprises the step of showing to the person that is using the invention said Original Extract and/or one or more of said Modified Extracts that have been generated.

20. A method as claimed in claim 19, wherein one or more of said Relations comprises more than one activation level, so that when said Relation is activated to different activation levels different modifications are applied and different Modified Extracts are generated.

21. A method as claimed in claim 19, further comprising:

- at least one Original Blind Extract that is associated to an Original Extract, wherein said Original Blind Extract is an entity that contains information about:

~ the words that are related in some way to said Original Extract,

~ other type of information, such as for example control characters or other information,

- the step of filtering said Original Blind Extract and generating a text fragment called Original Open Extract, which is the version of said Original Extract that is shown to the user.

22. A method as claimed in claim 21, further comprising:

- the step of modifying said Original Blind Extract and generating one or more Modified Blind Extracts, depending on the Relations that are active and on the level to which those Relations have been activated, wherein applying each one of said Relations creates a modification in said Original Blind Extract,

– the step of applying the filtering process that was mentioned in claim 5 to said Modified Blind Extracts, so that one or more Modified Open Extracts are created, wherein said Modified Open Extracts are the language fragments that are shown to the learner,

wherein if all Relations are non-active, the resulting Modified Closed Extract would have the same form as said Original Closed Extract.

23. A method as claimed in claim 19, further comprising the step of creating one or more of said Relations by using Relational Schemes,

– wherein said Relational Schemes are templates that contain certain modifications and certain variables for which it is necessary to specify a set of values, wherein said variables can be assigned values such as the following:

~ different word groups to which some of said certain modifications can be applied,

~ different concrete aspects about how to apply said certain modifications,

~ other type of information,

– wherein activating a Relation that is based on a Relational Scheme comprises the application of said modifications upon said word groups in a way that will depend on the level at which said Relation is active.

24. A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein said certain modifications are created as a combination of Basic Actions, wherein said Basic Actions can be one of the following:

– A "Show" Basic Action, which is characterized because it modifies the visualization state of one or more words,

– A "Move" Basic Action, which is characterized because it modifies the position of one or more words,

– A "Mark" Basic Action, which is characterized because it uses some means to mark or unmark one or more words,

– Other type of Basic Action

25. A method as claimed in claim 19, characterized because it comprises Simple Relations and Compounded Relations, wherein said Compounded Relations are created as a combination of one or more Relations, and wherein said one or more Relations might be Simple Relations or Compounded Relations.

26. A method as claimed in claim 25, characterized because it comprises a Compounded Relation of the type Multiple Displacement, which is characterized because it simultaneously applies two Relations that modify the position of two word groups.

5 27. A method as claimed in claim 18 wherein the modifications that produce a movement of words are carried out by a procedure that comprises the following steps:
   – creating replicas of the words that are to be moved
   – adding a movement code to the words that have just been created, so that said code facilitates distinguishing movements that have been applied in a consecutive fashion,
10   – placing in the chosen place the words that have just been created,
   – hiding the original words.

28. A method as claimed in claim 18 wherein the modifications that produce a movement of words are carried out by a procedure that comprises the following steps:
15   – creating a non visible word in a position that is next to the position of the words that are to be moved, in such a way that said non visible word contains a code that is related to said words, which code can be used to identify the words that will be moved,
   – removing those words that are to be moved,
   – creating new words with the same text as those removed words,
20   – place said new words that have been just created in the position that has been chosen as destination.

29. A method as claimed in claim 18, characterized because it is used to facilitate the comprehension and/or learning of languages.
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30. A method as claimed in claim 18 characterized because it is used to generate a data set that is utilized to build a system as claimed in claim 13.

30 31. A computer program characterized because it allows to build the system of one or more of claims 1 to 17.

32. A computer program characterized because it allows to build the method of one or more of claims 18 to 30.
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33. A support object that is readable by some means and that is characterized because it contains one or more or the computer programs referred to in claims 31 or 32.

34. A data set characterized because it allows to build the system of one or more of claims 1 to 17.

35. A data set characterized because it allows to build the method of one or more of claims 18 to 30.

36. A support object that is readable by some means and that is characterized because it contains one or more or the data sets referred to in claims 34 or 35.